

Obtaining Albuterol Inhalers, Spacers and Nebulizers For Use In Schools

SB 322, passed in 2016, allows school districts to keep a supply of emergency inhalers to use during asthma emergencies. School personnel are able to administer rescue inhalers after completion of an Asthma Training Program. The New Hampshire Asthma Control Program and the NH School Nurse Association also offer Asthma Training Programs for schools at no cost. Students must have an Asthma Action Plan and parental permission on file at the school in order to use a school rescue inhaler.

Schools can obtain inhalers, spacers or nebulizers locally by getting a prescription from a health care provider. Schools can contact the Medical Director of a local Convenient MD to obtain a prescription. Pharmacies should honor requests that are written on school letterhead and signed by the principal or superintendent. If there is a problem with a pharmacy filling the prescription please ask the pharmacist to call the Board of Pharmacy at 271-2152. Schools are responsible for the cost of these items. Unfortunately, there are no free programs for albuterol at this time.

Alternatively, The Allergy and Asthma Network can help schools obtain low cost inhalers and spacers. They have physicians who will write a standing order for a district. They simply need to know how many schools, how many inhalers, how many disposable chambers and the district office address. The Allergy and Asthma Network has a relationship with CVS & GoodRX to obtain the inhalers. Typically, the cost is \$8-10 per inhaler. They have a relationship with LightAire disposable valved holding chambers and can purchase them for \$3 each (minimum order of 400). The LightAire disposable chambers can also be purchased from MacGill for \$6.00 each or 25 for \$87.00 (macgill.com) The Allergy and Asthma Network also has Inspirachamber valved holding chambers which can be donated for a shipping fee. These are not disposable and need to be cleaned after each use. School nurses can contact Tonya Winders via email at twinders @ AllergyAsthmaNetwork.org or call 615-300-2569.

Please contact the NHSNA liaisons with any questions you have about this process.

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